

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 IO-13 TRSE-00 DHA-02
AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 USIA-06
PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 /113 R

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AF/S:WEATON
IO/UNP:SESCUDERO
TREAS:SSOMMERFIELD
TREAS:EFROST

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UR

SUBJECT: CHROME IMPORT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

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REF: (A) MOSCOW 7467, (B) STATE 117740, (C) STATE 98459,
(D) LUXEMBOURG 421, (E) MOSCOW 6941

1. TREASURY HAS MADE RAPID PROGRESS TOWARD REACHING AGREE-
MENTS WITH OUR TRADING PARTNERS REGARDING CERTIFICATION
PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT THEIR CHROME ORE, FERROCHROMIUM,
AND SPECIALTY STEEL EXPORTS TO US DO NOT CONTAIN RHODESIAN

CHROME. WE NOW WISH TO SEEK SOME FORM OF ASSURANCE FROM THE USSR THAT THE CHROME ORE AND FERROCHROMIUM IT EXPORTS TO WESTERN EUROPE, SOME OF WHICH EVENTUALLY COMES TO US IN THE FORM OF SPECIALTY STEEL, ARE NOT OF RHODESIAN ORIGIN.

2. THE EMBASSY SHOULD, THEREFORE, APPROACH APPROPRIATE SOVIET AUTHORITIES AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. THE UNITED STATES APPRECIATES THE USSR'S INTEREST IN INCREASING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS AGAINST THE SMITH REGIME.

B. THE UNITED STATES RECENTLY APPROACHED COUNTRIES WHICH ARE ITS MAJOR SUPPLIERS OF FERROCHROMIUM AND SPECIALTY STEEL WITH A VIEW TOWARDS PREVENTING THE IMPORTATION OF PRODUCTS CONTAINING RHODESIAN CHROME INTO THE UNITED STATES. THE UNITED STATES INFORMED THESE COUNTRIES THAT PURSUANT TO U.S. LAW, FERROCHROMIUM AND SPECIALTY STEEL IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES AFTER MARCH 18, 1977 MUST BE CERTIFIED AS NOT CONTAINING CHROME OF RHODESIAN ORIGIN; WE PRESENTED A PROPOSAL FOR DETAILED CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES. CERTIFICATION WAS NOT TO BE REQUIRED FOR CHROMIUM ORE IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES, PROVIDED IT IS IMPORTED DIRECTLY ON A THROUGH BILL OF LADING FROM THE PRODUCING COUNTRY; THERE IS LITTLE RISK OF IMPORTATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF RHODESIAN ORE UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES (APART FROM ORE FROM SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH IS TREATED SPECIALLY).

C. THE PROPOSED CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES INCLUDED REQUIREMENTS FOR LAB TESTING OF ORE AND FERROCHROMIUM IMPORTED FROM SOUTH AFRICA WHICH WOULD BE USED IN PRODUCTS DESTINED FOR THE UNITED STATES. THE PROPOSED PROCEDURES ALSO CONTAINED A CONSULTATION CLAUSE WHICH IMPLICITLY PROVIDES FOR ON-SITE OBSERVATION BY UNITED STATES OFFICIALS OF THE ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AT PORTS, FACTORIES, ETC.

D. THE UNITED STATES DID NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO PRESENT THE PROPOSAL FOR DETAILED CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES TO THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES AT THAT TIME SINCE THE USSR DOES NOT CURRENTLY SHIP FERROCHROMIUM OR SPECIALTY STEEL TO THE UNITED STATES. WE ALSO BELIEVED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE MONITORING SYSTEM. THE UNITED STATES EFFORTS ARE AIMED AT RHODESIAN CHROME AND WE INTEND TO APPLY THE CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES WITHOUT ADVERSELY AFFECTING SALES OF SOVIET FERROCHROMIUM AND ORE TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

E. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE USSR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS WILLING TO PROVIDE, FOR EACH EXPORT SHIPMENT OF FERROCHROMIUM, A CERTIFICATION THAT THE FERROCHROMIUM IS PRODUCED FROM CHROME ORE OF EXCLUSIVELY SOVIET ORIGIN. WE HOPE YOU WOULD CONSIDER MAKING A CERTIFICATION ON ALL OF YOUR EXPORTS OF FERROCHROMIUM IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS: QUOTE THE USSR IMPORTS NO CHROME OF RHODESIAN ORIGIN. ALL CHROME ORE EXPORTED FROM THE USSR IS OF SOVIET ORIGIN, ALL FERROCHROMIUM EXPORTED FROM THE USSR IS PRODUCED WITH CHROME OF EXCLUSIVELY SOVIET ORIGIN. END QUOTE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING A COPY OF A SAMPLE CERTIFICATION. CERTIFICATIONS OF THIS KIND WILL ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR ENFORCEMENT OF SANCTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGAINST SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

3. WE WOULD ALSO PREFER THAT STATEMENT ABOVE BE PREFACED BY A CLAUSE LINKING IT TO UN SANCTIONS, SUCH AS QUOTE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL'S SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTHERN RHODESIA, ... END QUOTE. HOWEVER, WE LEAVE IT TO BEST JUDGMENT OF EMBASSY WHETHER OR NOT TO ASK USSR AUTHORITIES TO INCLUDE THIS LANGUAGE. FYI: SINCE TREASURY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO COVER SOUTH AFRICAN ORE AND FERROCHROMIUM WHICH IS OCCASIONALLY ALLEGED TO BE BLENDED WITH RHODESIAN MATERIALS, THE EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO SEEK AN ASSURANCE IF POSSIBLE IN WRITING THAT THE USSR DOES NOT IMPORT ANY ORE OR FERROCHROMIUM FROM SOUTH AFRICA. THIS WOULD ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR AGREEMENT FOR PROCEDURES FOR LAB TESTING SOUTH AFRICAN ORE AND FERROCHROMIUM WHICH IS ESSENTIAL PROVISION OF CERTIFICATION AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. END FYI.

4. FURTHER MESSAGE ON CHROME SUPPLY SITUATION WILL FOLLOW VIA SEPTTEL. EMBASSY NEED NOT AWAIT SEPTTEL TO MAKE APPROACH OUTLINED ABOVE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: IMPORTS, STEEL, TRADE AGREEMENTS, CHROMIUM, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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